

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOME 01876 060353Z

21-12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 /150 W

----- 031633

R 051710Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6831

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 1365

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 1 8 7 6

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TO, PINT

SUBJ: CATHOLIC CONCERN OVER TOGOLESE RELATIONS WITH COMMUNISTS

REF: LOME 1862

1. RELIABLE CATHOLIC SOURCE REPORTS CATHOLIC CLERGY MET IN LOME OCTOBER 3 WITH ARCHBISHOP TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN TOGO-LESE FOREIGN RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WHICH THEY SEE AS ENDANGERING TOGO. RESULT WAS DECISION TO RECONSECRATE ALL OF TOGO TO VIRGIN MARY TO PROTECT IT AGAINST ALL EVILS. ALTHOUGH NO MENTION WILL BE MADE OF COMMUNISTS THIS IS "EVIL" AGAINST WHICH PROTECTION IS SOUGHT.

2. TO THIS END A NEW STATUE OF VIRGIN MARY, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE OR OBTAINED, WILL BE VENERATED IN TOGOVILLE, FROM WHICH IT WILL TRAVEL TO ANECHO, GOUNDOPE, PORTO SEGURO, LOME PARISH OF BE, AND THE SIX OTHER LOME PARISHES. IN EACH PARISH IT WILL BE VENERATED FOR TWO DAYS, AT END OF WHICH TIME IT WILL BE CARRIED IN CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION TO NEXT PARISH. ON NOVEMBER 4 IT WILL BE TRANSPORTED BY SPECIAL TRAIN FROM LOME
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LOME 01876 060353Z

BACK TO STOP NEAREST TOGOVILLE AND FROM THERE ACROSS LAKE TOGO

BY BOAT TO TOGOVILLE, WHERE IT WILL BE ENSHRINED IN NEW CHURCH.
ALL CATHOLICS IN COASTAL AREA WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO DESCEND ON
TOGOVILLE AT SAME TIME BY ALL AVAILABLE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION.

3. COMMENT: IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT EYADEMA AND HIS CLOSE
ADVISORS WILL NOT HEAR OF ALL THIS AND OF WHAT ITS REAL MEANING
IS. IF THEY DO, THERE COULD BE A NASTY CONFRONTATION BETWEEN
ARCHBISHOP AND PRESIDENT, A CONFRONTATION WHICH, IF HE IS WILL-
ING TO GET TOUGH, CAN ONLY BE DECIDED IN FAVOR OF PRESIDENT.
DICKINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LOME01876
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS DICKINSON
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731048/aaaabjdo.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LOME 1862
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CATHOLIC CONCERN OVER TOGOLESE RELATIONS WITH COMMUNISTS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, TO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005